

TITLE**PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF CYANINE DYES WITH
POLYSULFONATE ANIONS****ABSTRACT**

5 A convenient and economical method for preparing infrared absorbing
cyanine dyes useful in lithographic printing plate precursors is disclosed. The
reaction is generally carried out by condensation of a heterocyclic base
containing an activated methylene group and an unsaturated bisaldehyde or its
equivalent in a solvent or solvent mixture at about 20–150°C. All the reactions
10 necessary for production of the infrared absorbing cyanine dye may be carried
out in one reaction vessel without isolating any intermediate products.